TRICARE POLICY MANUAL 6010.54-M, AUGUST 1, 2002

PROGRAM FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (PFPWD)

Chapter 9
Section 1.1

GENERAL

ISSUE DATE: July 3, 1997
AUTHORITY: 32 CFR 199.5

I. DESCRIPTION

The Program for Persons with Disabilities (PFPWD) provides financial assistance to reduce the effects of mental retardation or a serious physical disability. It is not a stand alone program; subject to certain restrictions, it may be used concurrently with other TRICARE medical programs. The PFPWD is not an enrollment program.

II. POLICY

- A. PFPWD eligibility is a prerequisite to benefit authorization.
- B. Written authorization for PFPWD benefits is a prerequisite to claim adjudication.
- C. PFPWD-eligible beneficiaries who are enrolled in TRICARE Prime shall meet all applicable requirements of that program, including those regarding the assignment and use of a Primary Care Manager when services are requested and provided through the PFPWD.
- D. TRICARE is primary payer for medical services and items that are provided under Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act in accordance with the Individualized Family Service Plan and which are otherwise allowable under the TRICARE Basic Program or the PFPWD.

III. EXCLUSIONS

- A. Inpatient care for medical or surgical treatment of an acute illness, or of an acute exacerbation of the qualifying condition. These services may be cost-shared through the Basic Program.
- B. Structural alterations to living space and permanent fixtures, including alterations necessary to accommodate installation of equipment or to facilitate entrance or exit.
- C. Homemaker, sitter, or companion services, which provide assistance with daily living activities, accomplish household chores, provide companionship, supervision or observation, or any combination of these functions, except when these services are provided as institutional care or adjunct services.

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- D. Dental care and orthodontic treatment.
- E. Nondomestic travel which originates or terminates outside of a State.
- F. The price differential between the price for a type of accommodation which provides services or features that exceed the requirements of the beneficiary's condition for safe transport and the price for a type of accommodation without those deluxe features. Payment of such price differential is the responsibility of the beneficiary.
- G. Exclusions for durable medical equipment for Basic Program (32 CFR 199.4(d)(3)(ii)(D)) apply to all PFPWD allowable equipment.
- H. Prosthetic devices and medical equipment which do not meet the benefit requirements of 32 CFR 199.4.
- l. Services or items for which the beneficiary or sponsor has no legal obligation to pay, or for which no charge would be made if the beneficiary was not eligible for benefits.
- J. Services or items paid for, or eligible for payment, directly or indirectly by a Public Facility, as defined in 32 CFR 199.2, or by the Federal government, other than the Department of Defense, are excluded, except when such services or items are eligible for payment under a State plan for medical assistance under Title XIX of the Social Security Act (Medicaid).
- K. Services and items provided as a part of a scientific clinical study, grant, or research program.
- L. Unproven services and items whose safety and efficacy have not been established as described in 32 CFR 199.4.
- M. Services or items provided or prescribed by a member of the beneficiary's immediate family, or a person living in the beneficiary's or sponsor's household.
- N. Services or items ordered by a court or other government agency that are not otherwise a legitimate PFPWD benefit.
- O. Additional or special charges for excursions, except for other otherwise allowable transportation, even when they are part of a program offered by an approved provider.
 - P. Drugs and medicines which do not meet the requirements of 32 CFR 199.4.
 - Q. Therapeutic absences from an inpatient facility.
- R. Services for a beneficiary aged 3 to 21 which are written in the beneficiary's special education Individual Educational Plan (IEP) and which are required to be provided without charge by the local public education facility in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

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IV. EFFECTIVE DATE

October 28, 1997.

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